

Cornell Notes



Keep your notes organized and easy-to-read by using this simple note-taking method. You'll save time when exams come around because main ideas, questions, and definitions will already be established. When studying, simply cover the right side and your notes become a review sheet.

What is the date? What is the topic of discussion? Put this information at the top of each page so you can go back and find information quickly.

Recall Column

Use this column to:

- Highlight or define key words (who, what, where, when).
- Create questions to study from based on lecture material written in the right column.
- Reduce what the professor is saying to a few important words, establishing distinct breaks in note topics.
- Break-down the steps to a problem.

Note-Taking Column

Use this column to:

- Take synthesized notes based on the organization you've established on the left (why, how).
- Avoid writing what the professor is saying verbatim. Using shorter sentences and consolidating the material will help hardwire the information to your long-term memory.
- Adapt Cornell note taking to problem-based learning by using this space to draw pictures or solve equations step by step.

Summary

After class, take a few minutes to summarize the main ideas. Doing this will help you make connections, discover questions, and determine where you should start studying.